

Table 6-1. Research doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation commitments, by major field of doctorate: 2024

(Number)

Field of doctorate	All doctorate recipients	Doctorate recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
			United States					Abroad	Unknown
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment <sup>a</sup>	Other <sup>b</sup>		
All fields	58,131	36,718	33,765	13,296	8,098	8,266	4,105	2,923	30
Science and engineering	46,394	29,438	27,126	12,363	4,511	7,647	2,605	2,290	22
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	1,309	828	755	338	157	160	100	72	1
Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	866	537	490	214	111	136	29	47	0
Natural resources and conservation	443	291	265	124	46	24	71	25	1
Biological and biomedical sciences	9,797	5,742	5,473	3,573	582	988	330	267	2
Biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular biology	1,515	852	D	D	59	192	27	D	0
Bioinformatics, biostatistics, and computational biology	736	470	446	158	69	172	47	24	0
Biological and biomedical sciences, general	908	430	D	D	53	62	20	D	0
Cell/ cellular biology and anatomy	792	415	394	258	49	79	8	21	0
Ecology, evolutionary biology, and epidemiology	1,154	801	749	480	109	61	99	51	1
Genetics and genomics	471	272	256	171	24	46	15	16	0
Microbiology and immunology	1,092	618	593	438	46	82	27	24	1
Neurobiology and neurosciences	1,238	766	741	544	50	118	29	25	0
Pharmacology and toxicology	377	204	193	118	10	56	9	11	0
Physiology, oncology, and cancer biology	848	513	491	338	63	70	20	22	0
Biological and biomedical sciences, other	666	401	382	253	50	50	29	19	0
Computer and information sciences	2,595	1,717	1,584	400	330	771	83	130	3
Computer science	1,772	1,189	1,107	306	210	545	46	80	2
Computer and information sciences, other	823	528	477	94	120	226	37	50	1
Engineering	10,544	6,579	6,132	2,205	549	2,892	486	440	7
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical, and space engineering	597	386	363	105	58	138	62	22	1
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	1,295	669	645	350	54	210	31	24	0
Chemical and petroleum engineering	1,247	755	703	267	28	383	25	52	0
Civil, environmental, and transportation engineering	1,247	835	759	279	72	314	94	76	0
Electrical and computer engineering	2,022	1,336	1,250	326	110	747	67	82	4
Engineering technologies	415	275	252	73	24	139	16	23	0
Industrial engineering and operations research	609	406	363	88	72	159	44	42	1
Materials and mining engineering	853	542	518	210	21	242	45	24	0
Mechanical engineering	1,524	926	864	330	71	402	61	61	1
Engineering, other	735	449	415	177	39	158	41	34	0
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	1,204	850	770	469	87	113	101	79	1
Geological and earth sciences	685	488	433	243	47	78	65	54	1
Ocean, marine, and atmospheric sciences	519	362	337	226	40	35	36	25	0
Health sciences	2,874	1,781	1,661	578	526	321	236	119	1
Nursing and nursing science	583	380	350	77	176	38	59	30	0

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Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	472	283	261	118	10	112	21	22	0
Public health	809	509	480	216	108	58	98	28	1
Health sciences, other	1,010	609	570	167	232	113	58	39	0
Mathematics and statistics	2,004	1,316	1,134	491	252	315	76	180	2
Applied mathematics	442	308	270	126	43	88	13	37	1
Mathematics	921	552	448	241	127	58	22	103	1
Statistics	641	456	416	124	82	169	41	40	0
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences	1,623	1,090	992	308	202	400	82	96	2
Interdisciplinary computer sciences	549	398	364	80	69	193	22	33	1
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences, other	1,074	692	628	228	133	207	60	63	1
Physical sciences	5,367	3,320	3,039	1,649	249	987	154	278	3
Astronomy and astrophysics	340	251	220	163	23	18	16	31	0
Chemistry	2,738	1,604	1,514	728	132	582	72	89	1
Materials sciences	357	227	209	101	12	92	4	18	0
Physics	1,932	1,238	1,096	657	82	295	62	140	2
Psychology	3,951	2,714	2,634	1,489	448	324	373	80	0
Clinical psychology	1,159	897	888	752	36	32	68	9	0
Counseling and applied psychology	1,464	1,051	1,025	451	208	174	192	26	0
Research and experimental psychology	816	512	479	208	132	77	62	33	0
Psychology, other	512	254	242	78	72	41	51	12	0
Social sciences	5,126	3,501	2,952	863	1,129	376	584	549	0
Anthropology	395	231	201	86	71	11	33	30	0
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	457	276	248	73	125	14	36	28	0
Economics	1,385	1,054	804	199	284	174	147	250	0
Political science and government	674	459	390	122	171	37	60	69	0
Public policy analysis	434	289	268	57	75	27	109	21	0
Sociology, demography, and population studies	638	456	415	153	175	28	59	41	0
Social sciences, other	1,143	736	626	173	228	85	140	110	0
Non-science and engineering	11,737	7,280	6,639	933	3,587	619	1,500	633	8
Business	1,356	925	799	54	574	112	59	124	2
Business administration and management	441	262	228	15	127	54	32	34	0
Business, other	915	663	571	39	447	58	27	90	2
Education	3,941	2,599	2,453	187	1,236	184	846	145	1
Education leadership and administration	1,162	842	815	25	414	53	323	26	1
Education research	1,222	770	730	60	371	86	213	40	0
Teacher education and teaching fields	1,110	736	670	67	355	24	224	66	0

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Education, other	447	251	238	35	96	21	86	13	0
Humanities	3,305	1,902	1,724	394	915	120	295	175	3
English language and literature, letters	1,017	587	558	96	366	40	56	29	0
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	539	291	253	62	142	14	35	37	1
History	719	425	378	113	171	19	75	46	1
Philosophy and religious studies	631	378	338	101	163	23	51	40	0
Humanities, other	399	221	197	22	73	24	78	23	1
Visual and performing arts	874	448	395	54	209	51	81	53	0
Performing arts	518	239	216	20	114	35	47	23	0
Visual arts, media studies, and design	356	209	179	34	95	16	34	30	0
Other non-science and engineering	2,261	1,406	1,268	244	653	152	219	136	2
Communication and journalism	649	428	401	87	250	37	27	27	0
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary studies	386	208	189	30	88	26	45	19	0
Public administration and social services	534	344	323	53	144	37	89	19	2
Non-science and engineering, other	692	426	355	74	171	52	58	71	0

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

<sup>a</sup> Industry employment includes doctorate recipients reporting self-employment.

<sup>b</sup> Other includes doctorate recipients reporting government, nonprofit, elementary or secondary school, or other employment and those with unknown employment.

**Note(s):**

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment. Beginning in 2021, a modified version of the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes was used in the survey data collection, and new broad, major, and detailed fields are used in tables reporting data from 2021 to the present; see the field list in table A-4. Therefore, the field of doctorate data prior to 2021 may not be comparable to subsequent years. For more information about the 2021 taxonomy change, see the "Technical Notes."

**Source(s):**

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates.